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**Vietnam  
Population  
and AIDS  
Indicator  
Survey  
2005**

**Preliminary  
Report**

**General Statistical Office  
and  
National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology  
Ha Noi, Vietnam**

**MEASURE DHS  
ORC Macro  
Calverton, MD, USA**

This report summarizes the findings of the 2005 Vietnam Population and AIDS Indicator Survey (VPAIS) carried out by the General Statistical Office (GSO) and the National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology (NIHE). ORC Macro provided financial and technical assistance for the survey through the USAID-funded MEASURE DHS program, which is designed to assist developing countries to collect data on fertility, family planning, maternal and child health, and HIV/AIDS. Financial support was provided by the Government of Vietnam, the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Global AIDS Program (CDC/GAP).



Additional information about the survey may be obtained from the General Statistical Office (GSO), 2 Hoang Van Thu Street, Ha Noi Vietnam (Telephone: (84) 48 230 100; Fax: (84) 47 339 287; E-mail: [dansolaodong@gso.gov.vn](mailto:dansolaodong@gso.gov.vn)) and from the National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology (NIHE), 1 Yersin Street, Hanoi (Telephone: (84) 48 212 416; Fax: (84) 48 210 541; E-mail: [nihe@hn.vnn.vn](mailto:nihe@hn.vnn.vn)). Additional information about the DHS program may be obtained from MEASURE DHS, ORC Macro, 11785 Beltsville Drive, Suite 300, Calverton, MD 20705, U.S.A. (Telephone: 301.572.0200; Fax: 301.572.0999; e-mail: [reports@orcmacro.com](mailto:reports@orcmacro.com)).

# **VIETNAM POPULATION AND AIDS INDICATOR SURVEY 2005**

## **PRELIMINARY REPORT**

**General Statistical Office  
National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology  
Ha Noi, Vietnam**

**MEASURE DHS  
ORC Macro  
Calverton, Maryland, USA**

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**President's Emergency Plan  
Summary of Indicators**

Program area	Indicator Code	Indicator	Women	Men
Policy and Systems Strengthening	2	Percent of the general population with accepting attitudes toward persons living with HIV/AIDS	23.0	28.3
Prevention	1	Percent of young people aged 15-24 who both correctly identify ways of preventing the sexual transmission of HIV and reject major misconceptions about HIV transmission	42.3	50.3
	2	Percent of never married young men and women aged 15-24 who have never had sex	99.8	96.2
	3	Percent of never married women and men aged 15-24 who had sex in the last 12 months, of all never-married women and men (aged 15-24) surveyed	0.2	2.7
	4	Percent of women and men aged 15-49 who had sex with more than one partner in the last 12 months	0.0	0.7
	5	Percent of women and men aged 15-49 who say they used a condom the last time they had sex with a non-marital, non-cohabiting partner, of those who have had sex with such a partner in the last 12 months	*	72.5
	6	Percent of men reporting sex with a sex worker in the last 12 months who used a condom during last paid intercourse	NA	0.1
	8	Average number of medical injections per person per year	1.6	1.3
Counselling and Testing	9	Proportion of women and men age 15-49 reporting that the last health care injection was given with a syringe and needle set from a new, unopened package	94.6	96.8
	1	Percentage of women and men aged 15-49 who have been tested for HIV in the last 12 months and received their test results the last time they were tested	2.1	2.6

\* Too few cases to be calculated

**United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS (UNGASS)**

**Core Indicators for the Declaration of Commitment Implementation**

Program area	Indicator Code	Indicator	Women	Men
Knowledge and behaviour	10	Percentage of young women and men aged 15-24 who both correctly identify ways of preventing the sexual transmission of HIV and who reject major misconceptions about HIV transmission	42.3	50.3
	11	Percentage of young women and men age 15-24 who have had sex before the age of 15	0.6	0.3
	alternate 11	Percentage of young women and men age 18-24 who have had sex before the age of 18	9.8	3.2
	12	Percentage of young women and men aged 15-24 who have had sex with a non-marital, non-cohabiting sexual partner in the last 12 months	0.7	21.3
	13	Percentage of young women and men aged 15-24 reporting the use of a condom the last time they had sex with a non-marital, non-cohabiting sexual partner	*	67.6

\* Too few cases to be calculated

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

The 2005 Vietnam Population and AIDS Indicator Survey (VPAIS) was designed with the objective of obtaining national and sub-national information about program indicators of knowledge, attitudes and sexual behavior related to HIV/AIDS. Data collection took place from 17 September 2005 until mid December 2005.

The VPAIS was implemented by the General Statistical Office (GSO) in collaboration with the National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology (NIHE). ORC Macro provided financial and technical assistance for the survey through the USAID-funded MEASURE DHS program. Financial support was provided by the Government of Vietnam, the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Global AIDS Program (CDC/GAP).

The survey obtained information on knowledge, attitudes, and behavior regarding HIV/AIDS. In addition, in Hai Phong province, the survey also collected blood samples from survey respondents in order to estimate the prevalence of HIV. The overall goal of the survey was to provide program managers and policymakers involved in HIV/AIDS programs with strategic information needed to effectively plan, implement and evaluate future interventions.

The information is also intended to assist policymakers and program implementers to monitor and evaluate existing programs and to design new strategies for combating the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Vietnam. The survey data will also be used to calculate indicators developed by the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS (UNGASS), UNAIDS, WHO, USAID, the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, and the HIV/AIDS National Response.

The specific objectives of the 2005 VPAIS were:

- to obtain accurate information on behavioral indicators related to HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections.
- to obtain accurate information on HIV/AIDS program indicators.
- to obtain accurate estimates of the magnitude and variation in HIV prevalence in Hai Phong Province.

This preliminary report presents the results of selected key indicators of the 2005 VPAIS. However, since testing of blood specimens is not yet completed, estimates of HIV prevalence are not included in this report. A comprehensive report of the findings of the survey will be published later in the year and will include results from the HIV test. While considered provisional, the results presented here are not expected to differ significantly from those to be presented in the detailed report.

## **2 SURVEY IMPLEMENTATION**

### **2.1 Sample Design**

The sampling frame for the 2005 Vietnam Population and AIDS Indicator Survey (VPAIS) was the master sample used by the General Statistical Office (GSO) for its annual population change survey. The master sample itself is based on the 1999 population census.

The survey utilized a two-stage sample design. In the first stage, 251 clusters were selected from the master sample. In the second stage, a fixed number of households was systematically selected within each cluster, 22 households in urban areas and 28 in rural areas.

The total sample of 251 clusters is comprised of 97 urban and 154 rural clusters. The selected clusters were allocated as follows: 35 clusters in Hai Phong province where blood samples were collected to estimate HIV prevalence; 22 clusters in each of the three provinces of Ha Noi, Quang Ninh and Ho Chi Minh City; and the remaining 150 clusters from the other 60 provinces throughout the country.

Prior to the VPAIS fieldwork, GSO conducted a listing operation in each of the selected clusters. All households residing in the sample points were systematically listed by teams of enumerators, using listing forms specially designed for this activity, and also drew sketch maps of each cluster. A total of 6,446 households were selected. The VPAIS collected a representative sample of data:

- for the national level
- for urban and rural areas
- for three regions (North, Central and South)
- for four target provinces: Ha Noi, Hai Phong, Quang Ninh and Ho Chi Minh City.

All women and men aged 15-49 years who were either permanent residents of the sampled households or visitors present in the household during the night before the survey were eligible to be interviewed in the survey. All women and men in the sample points of Hai Phong who were interviewed were asked to voluntarily give a blood sample for HIV testing. For youths aged 15-17, blood samples were drawn only after obtaining additional consent from their parents or guardians.

### **2.2 Questionnaires**

Two questionnaires were used in the survey, the Household Questionnaire and the Individual Questionnaire for women and men aged 15-49. The content of these questionnaires was based on the model AIDS Indicator Survey (AIS) questionnaires developed by the MEASURE DHS program implemented by ORC Macro.

In consultation with government agencies and local and international organizations, the GSO modified the model questionnaires to reflect issues in HIV/AIDS relevant to Vietnam. These questionnaires were then translated from English into Vietnamese. The questionnaires were further refined after the pretest.

The Household Questionnaire was used to list all the usual members and visitors in the selected households. Some basic information was collected on the characteristics of each person listed, including age, sex, relationship to the head of the household, education, basic material needs, survivorship and residence of biological parents of children under the age of 18 years and birth registration of children under the age of 5 years. The main purpose of the Household Questionnaire was to identify women and men who were eligible for the individual interview. The Household Questionnaire also collected information on characteristics of the household's dwelling unit, such as the source of drinking water, type

of toilet facilities, type of material used in the flooring of the house, ownership of various durable goods, and ownership and use of mosquito nets.

The Individual Questionnaire was used to collect information from all women and men aged 15-49 years and covered the following topics:

- Background characteristics (education, media exposure, occupation, religion, employment, etc.)
- Reproduction (number of births, date of last birth, current pregnancy)
- Marriage and sexual activity
- Knowledge and attitudes towards HIV/AIDS
- Knowledge and reported prevalence of other Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), and other health issues (injections).
- Blood collection (in Hai Phong).

All aspects of VPAIS data collection were pre-tested in July 2005. In total, 24 interviewers (12 men and 12 women) were involved in this task. They were trained for thirteen days (including three days of fieldwork practice) and then proceeded to conduct the survey in the various urban and rural districts of Ha Noi. In total, 240 individual interviews were completed during the pretest. The lessons learnt from the pretest were used to finalize the survey instruments and logistical arrangements for the survey and blood collection.

## **2.3 Training**

Training courses for field staff were carried out in two locations. The first course took place in Ba Vi district of Ha Tay province from September 5 to 17, 2005, and the second course took place in My Tho city of Tien Giang province from September 12 to 24, 2005. A total of 79 candidates were trained. The courses consisted of introduction on interviewing skills and fieldwork procedures, detailed editing of questionnaires, mock interviews among trainees, and practice interviews in households outside the VPAIS sample points.

Testing of candidates at the end of the first week of training directed the selection of 72 candidates (36 men and 36 women) to form 12 data collection teams. Each team consisted of 1 male supervisor, 1 female field editor, 2 female interviewers and 2 male interviewers. Supervisors and field editors were trained in methods of editing, procedures for checking data quality, and logistics of field cooperation. In addition, team members assigned to Hai Phong province (12 in total) were trained on blood collection procedures. Trainers were senior staff from the VPAIS project, assisted by ORC Macro experts.

## **2.4 Community Mobilization and Fieldwork**

Prior to the start of fieldwork, the provincial statistical offices were requested to nominate candidates for VPAIS fieldwork and to undertake numerous activities designed to promote awareness of the survey and encourage participation. Letters to thank respondents for their participation and brochures on HIV were distributed to survey participants during the survey fieldwork operation. Respondents in Hai Phong were also given VCT information.

Provincial statistical offices visited local officials immediately before the commencement of the survey to alert them to the survey. Advocacy and mobilization activities continued throughout the survey period to ensure smooth and successful implementation. The purpose of the survey, its design, implementation, utilization of survey data and the need for community participation were discussed, as well as issues of confidentiality and anonymity of HIV testing.



Twelve teams carried out data collection for the survey. VPAIS staff coordinated and supervised fieldwork activities, assisted by occasional visits of ORC Macro experts. Data collection took place over a three-month period, from September 18 to the end of December 2005.

## **2.5 Blood Sample Collection for HIV testing**

All women and men aged 15-49 who were interviewed in Hai Phong province were asked to voluntarily provide a blood sample for subsequent testing of HIV. The protocol for the blood specimen collection and analysis was developed jointly by all parties to the survey. The protocol allows for the merging of the test results to the socio-demographic and behavioral data collected in the individual questionnaires, provided that the information that could potentially identify an individual is destroyed before the linking is effected. This requires that cluster and household codes be deleted from the data file, and that the back page of the Individual Questionnaire that contains the bar code labels be destroyed prior to merging the test results with the individual data file. This step was completed at the time of producing this preliminary report, before the NIHE laboratory begins any testing of the blood specimens. The main report will contain the analysis of the fully linked dataset, as well as a description of the entire testing algorithm.

All team members assigned to Hai Phong were trained in blood sample collection. To obtain informed consent for blood sampling, the interviewers explained the procedure, the confidentiality of the data, and the fact that the HIV test results could not be linked or made available to the respondent.

After providing consent, respondents provided a blood sample from a finger prick obtained with a single-use, spring-loaded, sterile lancet. Blood drops from the finger prick were collected on a filter paper card containing a bar-coded identification label. Matching labels were also pasted on the respondent's Individual Questionnaire and on a transmittal sheet used for inventory control.

All filter paper cards with blood drops were air-dried overnight in plastic boxes and stored in zip-lock bags containing desiccants to absorb moisture. Specimens were periodically collected from the field and taken to the NIHE laboratory for storage until the end of data collection.

Since respondents were not offered the results of their HIV test, survey respondents who wanted to know their HIV status were given a voucher for a free voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) visit, as well as an educational pamphlet explaining available services and the benefits of testing.

## **2.6 Data Processing**

The data processing of the VPAIS questionnaire began shortly after the fieldwork commenced. The first stage of data editing was done by the field editors, who checked the questionnaires for completeness and consistency. Supervisors also reviewed the questionnaires in the field. The completed questionnaires were then sent periodically to the GSO in Ha Noi by mail for data processing.

The office editing staff first checked that questionnaires of all households and eligible respondents had been received from the field. The data were then entered and edited using CSPro, a software package developed collaboratively between the U.S. Census Bureau and Macro to process complex surveys. All data were entered twice (100 percent verification). The concurrent processing of the data was a distinct advantage for data quality, as VPAIS staff was able to advise field teams of errors detected during data entry. The data entry and editing phases of the survey were completed by the end of December 2005.

### 3 RESULTS OF SURVEY INTERVIEWS

#### 3.1 Response Rates

Table 1 shows response rates for the VPAIS. A total of 6,446 households were selected in the sample, of which 6,346 were found to be occupied at the time of the fieldwork. Of existing households, 6,337 were interviewed, yielding a household response rate close to 100 percent.

Within interviewed households, a total of 7,369 women aged 15-49 were identified, of whom 7,289 were interviewed, yielding a response rate to the Individual interview of 99 percent among women. The high response rate was also achieved in male interviews. Among the 6,788 men aged 15-49 identified in interviewed households, 6,707 were successfully interviewed, yielding a response rate of 99 percent. Response rates are almost identical in urban and rural areas.

**Table 1 Results of the household and individual interviews**

Number of households, number of interviews, and response rates, according to residence, Vietnam VPAIS 2005

Result	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
<b>Household interviews</b>			
Households selected	2,134	4,312	6,446
Households occupied	2,096	4,250	6,346
Households interviewed	2,092	4,245	6,337
Household response rate	99.8	99.9	99.9
<b>Interviews with women</b>			
Number of eligible women	2,554	4,815	7,369
Number of eligible women interviewed	2,517	4,772	7,289
Eligible woman response rate	98.6	99.1	98.9
<b>Interviews with men</b>			
Number of eligible men	2,210	4,578	6,788
Number of eligible men interviewed	2,180	4,527	6,707
Eligible man response rate	98.6	98.9	98.8

#### 3.2 Characteristics of Respondents

The distribution of women and men aged 15-49 years by background characteristics is presented in Table 2. The table shows both the actual (unweighted) and weighted number of women and men interviewed. Weighting is necessary to compensate for differences in the selection probabilities and response rates. Because the sample design was not proportional to the population, but rather included over-sampling in certain areas, weighting is required to make the data reflect the actual population distribution in Vietnam. All results presented in this report are weighted.

The age distribution reveals that about one third of women and men interviewed are under age 25. The proportions of both women and men decline with increasing age between the 15-19 and the 25-29 age groups, then remain at the same level of about 13 percent in each age group.

Only 3 percent of women interviewed reported that they were pregnant at the time of interview.

The majority of women (94 percent) and men (96 percent) have been to school. Twenty-two percent of women and 18 percent of men have primary education, and about two-thirds of women (63 percent) and men (69 percent) have secondary education. The same proportion of women and men (10 percent) has achieved more than a secondary education.

Table 2 also shows the distribution of respondents by wealth quintile, an indicator of the economic status of households. The wealth index was constructed using household asset data and principal components

analysis. The asset information collected in the 2005 VPAIS Household Questionnaire covers information on household ownership of a number of consumer items ranging from a television to a bicycle or car, as well as dwelling characteristics such as source of drinking water, type of sanitation facilities, and type of material used in flooring. Each asset was assigned a weight (factor score) generated through principal component analysis, and the resulting asset scores were standardized in relation to a standard normal distribution with a mean of zero and standard deviation of one. Each household was then

**Table 2 Background characteristics of respondent age 15-49**

Percent distribution of women and men by selected background characteristics, Vietnam VPAIS 2005.

Background characteristics	Women			Men		
	Weighted percent	Weighted number	Unweighted number	Weighted percent	Weighted number	Unweighted number
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	18.6	1,359	1,346	22.0	1,472	1,400
20-24	15.3	1,112	1,132	13.9	934	974
25-29	13.0	948	963	13.5	902	888
30-34	13.9	1,012	969	13.2	887	871
35-39	13.5	986	993	12.4	831	840
40-44	13.6	995	989	13.1	879	890
45-49	12.0	878	897	11.9	801	844
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	30.5	2223	2237	39.0	2618	2595
Married/Living together	65.1	4750	4714	60.0	4025	4044
Divorced/Separated/ Widowed	4.3	316	338	1.0	64	68
<b>Currently pregnant</b>						
No or unsure	97.3	7,096	7,071	NA	NA	NA
Yes	2.7	193	218	NA	NA	NA
<b>Education</b>						
No education	5.6	407	422	3.5	234	228
Primary	21.6	1,574	1,383	18.1	1,215	1,076
Secondary	63.3	4,612	4,567	68.6	4,599	4,554
More than secondary	9.6	696	917	9.8	658	849
<b>Wealth index</b>						
Lowest	17.9	1,306	1,202	18.8	1,261	1,151
Second	19.0	1,387	1,156	19.0	1,275	1,091
Middle	20.6	1,503	1,259	20.6	1,384	1,196
Fourth	20.7	1,507	1,519	20.5	1,378	1,381
Highest	21.8	1,587	2,153	21.0	1,410	1,888
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	21.6	1,575	2,517	20.5	1,378	2,180
Rural	78.4	5,714	4,772	79.5	5,329	4,527
<b>Region</b>						
North	38.4	2,802	3,741	36.6	2,455	3,324
Central	24.8	1,808	1,390	25.9	1,735	1,349
South	36.7	2,679	2,158	37.5	2,517	2,034
<b>Targeted provinces</b>						
Ha Noi	3.2	235	581	3.2	218	538
Ho Chi Minh City	6.6	484	635	6.4	427	567
Hai Phong	2.3	167	971	2.1	141	820
Quang Ninh	1.4	100	595	1.4	93	558
<b>Total</b>	100.0	7,289	7,289	100.0	6,707	6,707

assigned a score for each asset, and the scores were summed for each household; individuals were ranked according to the total score of the household in which they resided. The sample was then divided into quintiles from one (lowest) to five (highest).

About four-fifths of women (78 percent) and men (80 percent) reside in rural areas. The distribution of respondents by region shows that 25 percent live in the Central region while about the same proportions (37-38 percent) live in the North and the South.

Table 2 also shows the proportion of women and men who reside in four provinces (Ha Noi, Ho Chi Minh City, Hai Phong and Quang Ninh). Because HIV/AIDS programs target these provinces, they were over-sampled and all survey results are available for each of them.

<b>Table 3 Current marital status</b>								
Percent distribution of women and men 15-49 by current marital status, according to age, Vietnam VPAIS 2005.								
Age	Never married	Married	Living together	Widow	Divorced	Not living together	Total	Number
<b>Women</b>								
15-24	74.9	24.4	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	100.0	2,471
.. 15-19	93.8	6.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	100.0	1,359
.. 20-24	51.9	46.9	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	100.0	1,112
25-29	16.3	80.2	0.2	0.8	1.6	0.9	100.0	948
30-39	7.4	88.1	0.3	1.4	2.1	0.8	100.0	1,997
40-49	3.8	86.1	0.2	5.6	2.6	1.8	100.0	1,873
Total	30.5	64.9	0.2	2.0	1.5	0.8	100.0	7,289
<b>Men</b>								
15-24	89.9	9.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	2,406
.. 15-19	98.5	1.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,472
.. 20-24	76.4	23.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	934
25-29	32.9	65.4	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.1	100.0	902
30-39	7.4	91.3	0.2	0.1	0.8	0.2	100.0	1,718
40-49	1.7	96.2	0.0	0.7	0.9	0.4	100.0	1,680
Total	39.0	59.8	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.2	100.0	6,707

Sixty-five percent of women are married or living in an informal union with a man, compared to 60 percent of men (Table 3). Because men marry later in life than women, almost two-fifths of the surveyed men (39 percent) has never married, compared to less than one third (31 percent) of the women. On the other hand, women are about four times as likely as men to be widowed, divorced or separated.

The proportion of respondents who have never married decreases with age from 94 percent of women and 98 percent of men age 15-19 to less than 4 percent of those aged 45-49, indicating that marriage is almost universal in Vietnam. The fact that men tend to marry at older ages than women is evidenced by the fact that 47 percent of women age 20-24 are currently married, compared with only 23 percent of men. Women in all age groups are also more likely than men to report being formerly married.

### 3.3 Knowledge of HIV/AIDS Transmission

The 2005 VPAIS included a series of questions that inquired about respondents' knowledge of AIDS and awareness of modes of transmission of HIV. In addition, respondents were asked if they knew of behaviors that can prevent the spread of HIV.

Table 4 shows that general awareness of AIDS is very high among women and men in the reproductive

ages. Ninety-three percent of women and 95 percent of men have heard of AIDS. However, general awareness remains low among respondents with no education (about 50 percent), and women and men in the lowest wealth quintiles (73 percent and 82 percent respectively).

Knowledge of HIV prevention methods is also widespread (Table 5). Almost nine in 10 adults (85 percent of women and 89 percent of men) know that having only one uninfected, faithful partner can reduce the chances of getting AIDS. Almost the same proportion of women (83 percent) and men (90 percent) say that using condoms every time they have sex can reduce the chance of getting AIDS.

Knowledge of both these means of avoiding HIV transmission is also high, with 79 percent of women and 86 percent of men citing both being faithful and using condoms as ways of reducing the risk of getting HIV. Surprisingly, the proportions of both women and men who know that sexual abstinence reduces the chances of getting the AIDS virus is relatively low—56 percent among women and 68 percent among men.

There are only slight differences by sex and background characteristics. However, knowledge of HIV prevention methods remains low among women and men with no education.

**Table 4 Knowledge of AIDS**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who have heard of AIDS by background characteristics, Vietnam VPAIS 2005.

Background characteristics	Women		Men	
	Has heard of AIDS	Number of women	Has heard of AIDS	Number of men
<b>Age</b>				
15-24	91.8	2,471	94.0	2,406
.. 15-19	90.7	1,359	93.0	1,472
.. 20-24	93.1	1,112	95.7	934
25-29	95.2	948	96.3	902
30-39	91.6	1,997	94.8	1,718
40-49	93.0	1,873	95.7	1,680
<b>Education</b>				
No education	48.9	407	50.7	234
Primary	85.6	1,574	89.6	1,215
Secondary	97.6	4,612	97.9	4,599
More than secondary	99.8	696	100.0	658
<b>Marital status</b>				
Never married	92.6	2,223	95.0	2,618
..Ever had sex	*	30	99.8	204
..Never had sex	92.6	2,193	94.6	2,414
Married/Living together	92.7	4,750	95.0	4,025
Divorced/Separated/ Widowed	89.4	316	91.3	64
<b>Wealth index</b>				
Lowest	73.4	1,306	81.7	1,261
Second	93.5	1,387	96.2	1,275
Middle	96.5	1,503	97.3	1,384
Fourth	97.2	1,507	99.1	1,378
Highest	99.2	1,587	99.2	1,410
<b>Residence</b>				
Urban	97.6	1,575	98.9	1,378
Rural	91.1	5,714	93.9	5,329
<b>Region</b>				
North	91.6	2,802	93.6	2,455
Central	91.5	1,808	93.2	1,735
South	94.2	2,679	97.5	2,517
<b>Targeted provinces</b>				
Ha Noi	99.9	235	99.4	218
Ho Chi Minh City	96.9	484	98.9	427
Hai Phong	97.1	167	98.7	141
Quang Ninh	96.7	100	99.6	93
<b>Total</b>	<b>92.5</b>	<b>7,289</b>	<b>94.9</b>	<b>6,707</b>

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases.

Table 5. Knowledge of HIV prevention methods

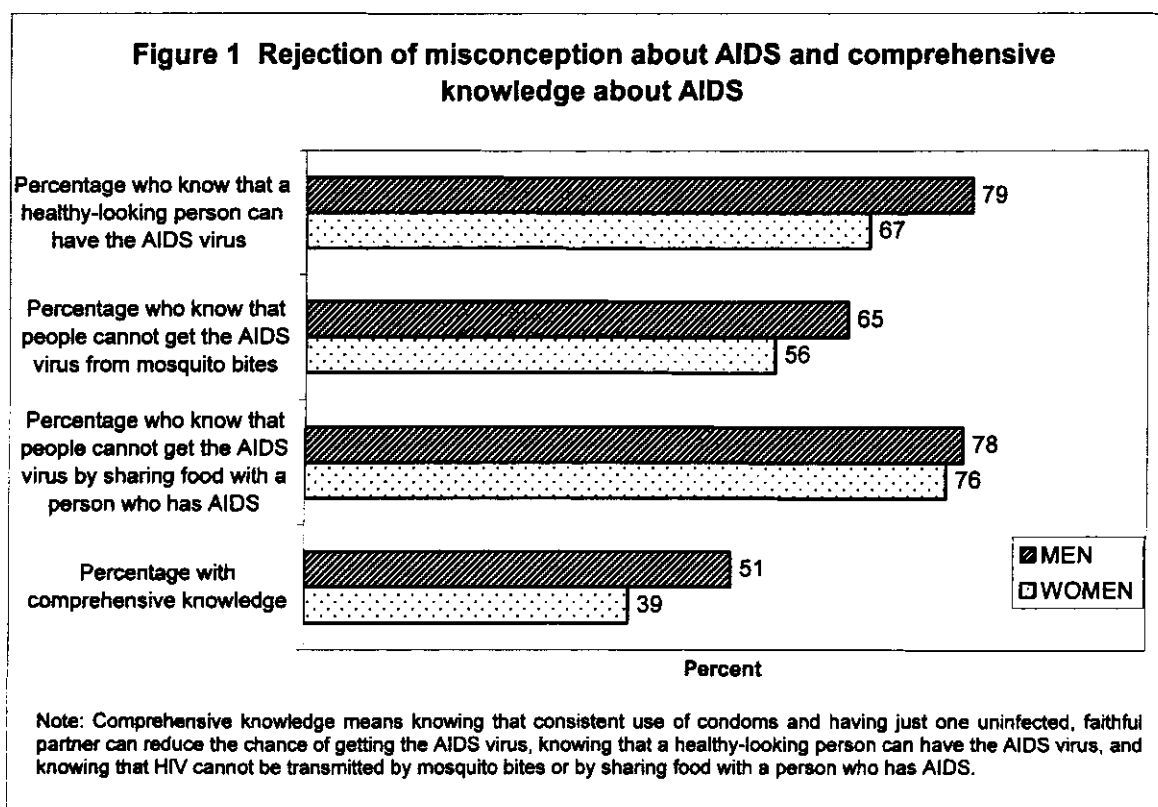
Percentages of women and men age 15-49 who, in response to a prompted question, say that people can reduce risk of getting AIDS virus by using condoms every time they have sexual intercourse, by having one sex partner who is not infected and has no partners, and by abstaining from sexual intercourse, by background characteristics, Vietnam VPAIS 2005.

Background Characteristics	Women					Men				
	Using condoms	Limiting sex to one uninfected partner	Using condoms and limiting sex to one uninfected partner	Abstaining from sexual intercourse	Number of respondents	Using condoms	Limiting sex to one uninfected partner	Using condoms and limiting sex to one uninfected partner	Abstaining from sexual intercourse	Number of respondents
<b>Age</b>										
15-24	77.8	80.8	73.3	52.3	2,471	86.7	84.4	80.7	63.8	2,406
.. 15-19	74.1	78.1	69.7	49.4	1,359	84.7	82.1	77.9	61.8	1,472
.. 20-24	82.3	84.1	77.6	55.8	1,112	89.7	88.1	85.1	67.0	934
25-29	88.3	90.0	85.5	59.5	948	91.6	91.2	88.6	67.8	902
30-39	84.1	86.9	81.5	54.6	1,997	91.0	91.7	88.7	69.4	1,718
40-49	84.0	87.1	79.7	58.8	1,873	92.1	92.2	89.4	70.9	1,680
<b>Education</b>										
No education	33.0	37.1	27.0	25.5	407	41.4	40.2	36.3	22.5	234
Primary	70.8	74.4	66.0	48.5	1,574	80.9	80.2	74.9	60.1	1,215
Secondary	88.6	91.3	85.1	59.9	4,612	93.3	92.7	89.8	71.7	4,599
More than secondary	97.4	98.4	96.1	59.7	696	98.8	98.4	97.4	68.1	658
<b>Marital status</b>										
Never married	77.5	80.5	72.7	49.6	2,223	88.3	86.0	82.8	64.4	2,618
.. Ever had sex	*	*	*	*	30	98.5	94.3	94.2	68.5	204
.. Never had sex	77.2	80.4	72.5	49.8	2,193	87.4	85.3	81.8	64.1	2,414
Married/Living together	84.9	87.6	81.6	58.2	4,750	90.8	91.2	88.2	69.6	4,025
Divorced/Separated/Widowed	81.4	84.0	78.2	56.2	316	86.4	83.8	83.8	68.5	64
<b>Wealth index</b>										
Lowest	59.9	63.1	56.2	43.5	1,306	73.9	71.6	67.0	52.1	1,261
Second	82.1	82.9	75.5	54.9	1,387	89.0	87.6	84.0	68.1	1,275
Middle	85.3	89.6	81.8	57.4	1,503	93.0	93.0	90.1	73.3	1,384
Fourth	88.9	92.5	86.3	61.1	1,507	95.0	94.9	92.1	73.6	1,378
Highest	92.7	94.7	90.2	58.8	1,587	96.5	96.7	94.9	69.3	1,410
<b>Residence</b>										
Urban	90.3	91.3	86.4	56.9	1,575	95.1	94.9	92.8	70.1	1,378
Rural	80.3	83.6	76.7	55.1	5,714	88.4	87.6	84.3	66.9	5,329
<b>Region</b>										
North	83.1	87.7	81.2	58.5	2,802	89.0	88.2	85.2	68.2	2,455
Central	83.6	83.3	78.8	55.1	1,808	86.6	85.8	82.4	66.5	1,735
South	81.1	84.1	76.3	52.7	2,679	92.8	92.3	89.4	67.6	2,517
<b>Targeted provinces</b>										
Ha Noi	95.5	99.2	94.8	75.7	235	97.5	94.9	94.5	75.2	218
Ho Chi Minh City	83.3	85.6	76.8	52.0	484	96.8	98.1	96.3	69.7	427
Hai Phong	84.9	92.6	83.1	66.8	167	96.4	96.5	94.8	82.2	141
Quang Ninh	92.9	92.8	90.1	81.0	100	94.3	94.4	90.9	79.4	93
<b>Total</b>	<b>82.5</b>	<b>85.3</b>	<b>78.8</b>	<b>55.5</b>	<b>7,289</b>	<b>89.8</b>	<b>89.1</b>	<b>86.0</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>6,707</b>

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases.

In addition to knowing about effective ways to avoid contracting HIV, it is also useful for people to be able to distinguish which beliefs about contracting AIDS are misconceptions. Common misconceptions about AIDS include the perception that HIV-infected people always appear ill, and the belief that the virus can be transmitted through mosquito or other insect bites, or by sharing food with someone who is infected. Respondents were asked about these three misconceptions.

Figure 1 indicates that the majority of adults know that people infected with HIV do not necessarily show signs of infection. Sixty-seven percent of women and 79 percent of men know that a healthy-looking person can be infected with HIV. Fewer respondents understand that the AIDS virus cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites; only 56 percent of women and 65 percent of men know that AIDS cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites. A much higher proportion—over three-quarters—are aware that sharing food with HIV-infected people is not a means of transmitting the virus.



Comprehensive knowledge refers to those who know two means of reducing HIV risk (being faithful to one uninfected partner and consistent use of condoms) and who reject the two most common misconceptions about transmission (sharing food and mosquito bites) and who know that a healthy-looking person can have HIV. Thirty-nine percent of women and 51 percent of men have comprehensive knowledge about HIV.

### 3.4 Attitudes Relating to HIV/AIDS

Stigma and discrimination against people infected with HIV is one of the key challenges in the prevention and control of the epidemic. People living with HIV/AIDS face discrimination and sometimes neglect due to hostile attitudes. More importantly, stigma leads to secrecy and denial that hinders people from seeking counseling and testing for HIV, which is one of the crucial first steps in fighting the epidemic.

In the VPAIS, respondents who had heard of AIDS were asked several questions related to their attitudes

towards those infected by HIV/AIDS. They were asked about their willingness to care for a sick relative with AIDS in their own households. Another question assessed willingness to buy fresh vegetables from an infected shopkeeper/vendor if they knew that he/she had the AIDS virus.

Table 6.1 Accepting attitudes toward those living with HIV (Women)

Among respondents who have heard of HIV/AIDS, percentage expressing specific attitudes toward people with HIV, by background characteristics, Vietnam VPAIS 2005.

Background characteristics	Percentage of respondents who:				Percentage expressing acceptance on all 4 measures	Number of women who have heard of HIV/AIDS
	Willing to care for family member with HIV at home	Would buy fresh vegetables from shopkeeper with AIDS	Believe HIV positive teacher should be allowed to teach	Would not want HIV+ status of family member to remain secret		
<b>Age</b>						
15-24	92.7	58.0	62.1	49.9	27.3	2,267
.. 15-19	92.3	57.7	65.3	51.0	28.6	1,232
.. 20-24	93.2	58.4	58.2	48.6	25.8	1,035
25-29	94.0	54.0	57.5	47.1	23.3	903
30-39	93.0	49.9	53.4	49.9	22.0	1,830
40-49	92.1	43.8	48.5	52.4	18.4	1,742
<b>Education</b>						
No education	86.7	19.3	23.7	39.8	3.5	199
Primary	89.2	27.1	32.6	44.0	8.1	1,348
Secondary	93.4	55.9	59.8	51.9	25.4	4,501
More than secondary	97.5	80.1	82.5	53.6	42.2	695
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	92.1	59.4	63.2	49.7	28.6	2,060
..Ever had sex	*	*	*	*	*	28
..Never had sex	92.1	59.4	63.2	49.8	28.7	2,031
Married/Living together	93.1	48.5	52.9	50.3	21.2	4,401
Divorced/Separated/Widowed	93.1	43.3	42.0	52.1	10.3	282
<b>Wealth index</b>						
Lowest	92.0	30.4	36.0	46.3	12.3	959
Second	93.8	43.1	47.1	53.9	20.9	1,296
Middle	94.6	51.9	57.4	52.1	24.1	1,450
Fourth	92.4	58.4	62.8	52.5	27.4	1,465
Highest	91.3	65.0	66.2	45.5	26.3	1,574
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	90.1	63.7	63.2	46.3	26.3	1,537
Rural	93.6	48.0	53.4	51.3	22.1	5,206
<b>Region</b>						
North	97.8	57.5	63.4	56.5	29.4	2,566
Central	94.6	64.8	60.9	55.1	31.5	1,654
South	86.6	36.9	44.2	40.5	11.0	2,523
<b>Targeted provinces</b>						
Ha Noi	99.0	70.4	72.7	38.7	23.0	235
Ho Chi Minh City	83.8	55.5	58.0	42.9	18.3	469
Hai Phong	96.7	49.8	68.3	55.8	23.3	162
Quang Ninh	99.1	71.2	75.0	65.0	44.0	97
<b>Total</b>	92.8	51.6	55.6	50.2	23.0	6,743

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases.

Survey results indicate that more than 9 in 10 respondents would be willing to care for a relative who is sick with AIDS in their own household (Tables 6.1 and 6.2); far fewer women (52 percent) and men (61 percent) say they would buy vegetables from a shopkeeper if they knew he or she is HIV positive.

About 6 in 10 Vietnamese believe that a female teacher who has the AIDS virus but is not sick should be allowed to continue teaching in the school. Just half of women and men say that if a member of their family got infected with the virus that causes AIDS, they would not necessarily want it to remain a secret.



**Table 6.2 Accepting attitudes toward those living with HIV (Men)**

Among respondents who have heard of HIV/AIDS, percentage expressing specific attitudes toward people with HIV, by background characteristics, Vietnam VPAIS 2005.

Background characteristics	Percentage of respondents who:				Percentage expressing acceptance on all 4 measures	Number of men who have heard of HIV/AIDS
	Willing to care for family member with HIV at home	Would buy fresh vegetables from shopkeeper with AIDS	Believe HIV positive teacher should be allowed to teach	Would not want HIV+ status of family member to remain secret		
<b>Age</b>						
15-24	96.5	60.5	62.3	44.5	26.9	2,262
.. 15-19	96.2	59.8	62.5	43.7	26.8	1,369
.. 20-24	96.9	61.6	62.0	45.8	27.0	893
25-29	96.2	64.0	62.9	50.7	28.7	869
30-39	95.5	60.2	60.3	55.1	29.8	1,630
40-49	96.2	60.3	63.0	53.5	28.6	1,607
<b>Education</b>						
No education	87.3	13.3	20.9	36.8	6.4	119
Primary	93.7	31.4	34.8	41.6	9.7	1,089
Secondary	96.6	65.2	65.8	51.3	30.4	4,502
More than secondary	98.4	88.8	88.9	60.4	49.0	658
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	96.4	63.4	65.2	46.1	29.0	2,487
..Ever had sex	98.3	69.6	68.1	38.1	21.7	204
..Never had sex	96.3	62.8	65.0	46.8	29.6	2,283
Married/Living together	95.9	59.5	60.2	53.1	28.1	3,823
Divorced/Separated/Widowed	98.4	47.0	53.1	51.6	11.3	58
<b>Wealth index</b>						
Lowest	92.9	34.4	37.5	44.8	12.4	1,030
Second	95.9	53.4	52.7	45.6	21.7	1,226
Middle	96.0	66.0	65.1	54.9	32.5	1,347
Fourth	97.1	68.4	69.6	53.2	32.9	1,366
Highest	97.9	74.6	78.2	51.3	37.3	1,399
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	97.0	69.9	74.5	48.8	33.1	1,362
Rural	95.9	58.4	58.7	50.7	27.0	5,006
<b>Region</b>						
North	95.6	66.5	66.1	61.4	37.2	2,297
Central	96.5	74.9	68.5	46.6	32.9	1,617
South	96.3	46.4	54.1	42.4	17.0	2,454
<b>Targeted provinces</b>						
Ha Noi	96.2	84.0	78.6	53.0	39.3	217
Ho Chi Minh City	97.0	60.2	69.0	42.7	27.0	423
Hai Phong	97.3	64.2	77.1	55.4	30.7	139
Quang Ninh	98.0	70.7	75.2	61.9	44.1	92
<b>Total</b>	<b>96.1</b>	<b>60.9</b>	<b>62.1</b>	<b>50.3</b>	<b>28.3</b>	<b>6,368</b>

A composite indicator combines all four of these attitudes. As shown in the last row in Tables 6.1 and 6.2, only 23 percent of women and 28 percent of men express positive attitudes on all four components of the indicator. It is also interesting to note that for all indicators, women are less likely to express accepting attitudes towards people with HIV/AIDS than men.

### 3.5 Sexual Behavior

#### *Recent sexual activity*

Table 7 shows the distribution of women and men according to the timing of their last sexual activity by background characteristics.

Table 7 Recent sexual activity

Percent distribution of women and men age 15-49 by timing of last sexual intercourse, according to background characteristics, Vietnam VPAIS 2005.

Background characteristics	Women					Men				
	Within 1 year	One or more years	Never had sexual intercourse	Total	Number	Within 1 year	One or more years	Never had sexual intercourse	Total	Number
<b>Age</b>										
15-19	6.3	0.2	93.5	100.0	1,359	3.0	0.3	96.8	100.0	1,472
20-24	47.1	1.0	51.8	100.0	1,112	27.1	2.5	70.3	100.0	934
25-29	80.6	3.9	15.6	100.0	948	70.6	4.3	25.1	100.0	902
30-34	86.7	4.4	9.0	100.0	1,012	89.8	3.0	7.2	100.0	887
35-39	89.5	5.9	4.5	100.0	986	96.5	1.2	2.3	100.0	831
40-44	88.0	8.9	3.1	100.0	995	95.2	3.1	1.7	100.0	879
45-49	81.3	15.1	3.6	100.0	878	94.6	4.3	1.1	100.0	801
<b>Education</b>										
No education	82.9	4.9	12.2	100.0	407	76.6	2.3	21.2	100.0	234
Primary	72.6	7.9	19.5	100.0	1,574	72.5	3.1	24.4	100.0	1,215
Secondary	61.8	4.5	33.7	100.0	4,612	58.2	2.4	39.3	100.0	4,599
More than secondary	56.0	3.2	40.8	100.0	696	59.1	1.5	39.4	100.0	658
<b>Marital status</b>										
Never married	0.4	0.9	98.6	100.0	2,223	5.1	2.7	92.2	100.0	2,618
Married or living together	98.5	1.5	0.0	100.0	4,750	99.0	1.0	0.0	100.0	4,025
Divorced/separated/widowed	10.0	90.0	0.0	100.0	316	18.3	81.7	0.0	100.0	64
<b>Marital duration</b>										
0-4 years	97.0	3.0	0.0	100.0	837	98.9	1.1	0.0	100.0	735
5-9 years	95.6	4.4	0.0	100.0	828	97.2	2.8	0.0	100.0	707
10-14 years	94.0	6.0	0.0	100.0	924	98.9	1.1	0.0	100.0	774
15-19 years	93.9	6.1	0.0	100.0	981	97.5	2.5	0.0	100.0	839
20-24 years	89.2	10.8	0.0	100.0	793	96.3	3.7	0.0	100.0	619
25+ years	87.7	12.3	0.0	100.0	584	96.5	3.5	0.0	100.0	296
Married more than once	83.1	16.9	0.0	100.0	119	97.3	2.7	0.0	100.0	118
<b>Wealth index</b>										
Lowest	70.4	5.1	24.5	100.0	1,306	64.8	3.0	32.2	100.0	1,261
Second	65.0	7.3	27.7	100.0	1,387	61.9	2.0	36.2	100.0	1,275
Middle	62.7	4.2	33.1	100.0	1,503	59.1	2.1	38.8	100.0	1,384
Fourth	65.0	4.7	30.3	100.0	1,507	61.2	2.8	36.0	100.0	1,378
Highest	61.6	4.6	33.8	100.0	1,587	61.1	2.4	36.5	100.0	1,410
<b>Residence</b>										
Urban	57.2	5.9	36.9	100.0	1,575	59.7	3.2	37.1	100.0	1,378
Rural	66.9	4.9	28.2	100.0	5,714	62.0	2.3	35.7	100.0	5,329
<b>Region</b>										
North	68.1	4.3	27.6	100.0	2,802	66.1	1.4	32.5	100.0	2,455
Central	64.1	6.3	29.6	100.0	1,808	58.1	2.2	39.8	100.0	1,735
South	61.7	5.2	33.1	100.0	2,679	59.5	3.7	36.8	100.0	2,517
<b>Targeted provinces</b>										
Ha Noi	62.0	4.5	33.5	100.0	235	62.3	2.8	34.9	100.0	218
Ho Chi Minh City	52.7	5.9	41.4	100.0	484	55.9	5.1	38.9	100.0	427
Hai Phong	64.3	6.2	29.5	100.0	167	65.4	2.8	31.8	100.0	141
Quang Ninh	67.3	6.6	26.1	100.0	100	64.9	1.2	33.8	100.0	93
<b>Total</b>	<b>64.8</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>30.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7,289</b>	<b>61.6</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6,707</b>

Thirty percent of women and 36 percent of men have never had sexual intercourse. Five and three percent of women and men, respectively, report that their last sexual encounter occurred one or more years before the survey, while 65 percent of women and 62 percent of men have had sexual intercourse in the year preceding the survey.

Survey results reveal that 94 percent of women and 97 percent of men in the youngest age group (15-19) have never had sex. Almost all married women and men (99 percent) had sexual activity within the year preceding the survey. Among those who have never married, the proportion who reported sexual encounter is very low: 99 percent of never married women and 92 percent of never married men have never had sexual intercourse. Only 10 percent of formerly married women and 18 percent of divorced or widowed men had sexual activity within the year preceding the survey.

### *Higher risk sex*

Since the most important mechanism of HIV transmission is through unprotected sexual intercourse with an infected partner, women and men interviewed were asked questions about the number of partners with whom they had had sex in the 12 months preceding the survey, the type of relationship they had with these partners, and the number of sexual partners in their whole life.

**Table 8.1 Multiple sexual partners and higher risk sexual intercourse in past 12 months (Women)**

Among respondents age 15-49 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, the percentage who had intercourse with more than one partner and the percentage who had higher risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, and the mean number of sexual partners during his/her lifetime for respondents who ever had sexual intercourse, by background characteristics, Vietnam VPAIS 2005.

Background characteristics	Sexual intercourse in the past 12 months			Ever had sexual intercourse	
	Percentage who had 2+ partners in the past 12 months	Percentage who had higher risk intercourse in past 12 months	Number	Mean number of sexual partners in lifetime	Number
<b>Age</b>					
15-24	0.0	0.7	609	1.0	623
.. 15-19	0.0	3.9	85	1.0	88
.. 20-24	0.0	0.1	524	1.0	536
25-29	0.0	0.8	764	1.0	799
30-39	0.0	0.2	1,759	1.0	1,862
40-49	0.0	0.3	1,589	1.1	1,810
<b>Education</b>					
No education	0.0	0.2	337	1.1	357
Primary	0.1	0.1	1,143	1.1	1,267
Secondary	0.0	0.5	2,851	1.0	3,058
More than secondary	0.0	0.1	390	1.0	412
<b>Marital status</b>					
Never married	*	*	9	*	30
Married or living together	0.0	0.0	4,680	1.0	4,748
Divorced/separated/widowed	(0.0)	(23.1)	32	1.1	316
<b>Wealth index</b>					
Lowest	0.0	0.4	919	1.1	986
Second	0.0	0.1	902	1.0	1,003
Middle	0.0	0.4	942	1.0	1,004
Fourth	0.1	0.3	980	1.0	1,051
Highest	0.0	0.7	977	1.0	1,050
<b>Residence</b>					
Urban	0.1	0.3	901	1.0	995
Rural	0.0	0.4	3,820	1.0	4,100
<b>Region</b>					
North	0.0	0.3	1,909	1.0	2,028
Central	0.0	0.7	1,159	1.0	1,273
South	0.0	0.2	1,654	1.0	1,793
<b>Targeted provinces</b>					
Ha Noi	0.0	0.5	146	1.0	157
Ho Chi Minh City	0.3	0.3	255	1.0	284
Hai Phong	0.0	0.0	107	1.0	118
Quang Ninh	0.2	0.0	67	1.0	74
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>4,721</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>5,094</b>

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases.

Among those who were sexually active in the 12 months preceding the survey, almost no women and less than 1 percent of men reported having had more than one sexual partner (Tables 8.1 and 8.2). For women and men who were sexually active in the 12 months preceding the survey, Tables 8.1 and 8.2 show the proportion who engaged in higher risk sex and among those, the proportion who used a condom during sex with such partners.

Table 8.2 Multiple sexual partners and higher risk sexual intercourse in past 12 months (Men)

Among respondents age 15-49 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, the percentage who had intercourse with more than one partner and the percentage who had higher risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, and among those having higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months, the percentage reporting that a condom was used at last higher-risk intercourse, and the mean number of sexual partners during his/her lifetime for respondents who ever had sexual intercourse, by background characteristics, Vietnam VPAIS 2005.

Background characteristics	Sexual intercourse in the past 12 months			Higher risk intercourse in the past 12 months		Ever had sexual intercourse	
	Percentage who had 2+ partners in the past 12 months	Percentage who had higher risk intercourse in past 12 months	Number	Percentage reporting condom use at last higher risk sex	Number	Mean number of sexual partners in lifetime	Number
<b>Age</b>							
15-24	2.3	21.3	297	67.6	63	1.4	324
.. 15-19	(0.0)	(51.7)	44	*	23	(1.1)	47
.. 20-24	2.7	16.1	253	67.6	41	1.5	277
25-29	1.7	7.3	637	80.1	46	1.3	673
30-39	0.6	2.5	1,599	70.2	40	1.4	1,635
40-49	0.2	0.3	1,596	*	5	1.4	1,654
<b>Education</b>							
No education	1.5	0.6	179	*	1	1.4	184
Primary	1.1	2.1	882	*	18	1.4	919
Secondary	0.6	3.6	2,678	72.3	96	1.4	2,785
More than secondary	0.3	9.9	389	74.0	39	1.5	399
<b>Marital status</b>							
Never married	12.6	100.0	134	73.5	134	2.5	203
Married or living together	0.3	0.3	3,983	*	12	1.3	4,019
Divorced/separated/widowed	*	*	12	*	8	2.1	64
<b>Wealth index</b>							
Lowest	0.9	1.2	817	*	10	1.2	855
Second	0.3	2.3	789	*	18	1.2	814
Middle	0.8	3.5	818	(84.6)	28	1.3	847
Fourth	1.0	3.9	843	(65.6)	33	1.5	879
Highest	0.7	7.5	861	75.6	65	1.7	892
<b>Residence</b>							
Urban	0.8	7.7	822	75.0	63	1.8	864
Rural	0.7	2.7	3,306	70.7	90	1.3	3,423
<b>Region</b>							
North	0.6	3.1	1,622	79.7	50	1.3	1,652
Central	0.2	1.5	1,008	*	15	1.2	1,045
South	1.3	5.9	1,498	70.3	88	1.6	1,590
<b>Targeted provinces</b>							
Ha Noi	0.0	9.1	136	(80.4)	12	1.5	142
Ho Chi Minh City	1.4	11.7	239	(66.9)	28	2.4	261
Hai Phong	2.3	7.2	92	(87.3)	7	1.8	96
Quang Ninh	0.0	1.7	60	*	1	1.2	61
<b>Total</b>	0.7	3.7	4,128	72.5	154	1.4	4,287

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases.

In the context of this survey, higher risk sex is defined as sex with a non-marital, non-cohabiting partner in the 12 months preceding the survey. Less than 1 percent of women and 4 percent of men engaged in sex with a non-marital, non-cohabiting partner. By the definition used here, all premarital sex is higher risk sex; consequently, the prevalence of higher risk sex is higher among the youngest respondents and among those who have never married. Urban men are more likely than rural men to engage in higher risk sex (8 percent versus 3 percent). There is a tendency for the prevalence of higher risk sexual behavior to increase with education and the wealth quintile. The proportion of men engaged in higher risk sex is higher in the South (6 percent) than in the other regions, and higher in Ho Chi Minh City, Ha Noi, and Hai Phong (respectively 12, 9, and 7 percent) than in Quang Ninh (2 percent).

Among men engaged in higher risk sex in the past 12 months, 73 percent reported using condoms at the most recent high-risk sex, and survey results reveal very little variation according to background characteristics.

As for the mean number of lifetime sexual partners, women reported a mean of 1.0, compared to 1.4 for men. Among women, the mean number of partner presents almost no variation by background characteristics. Never married and formerly married men (respectively 2.5 and 2.1) reported, on average, more partners than married men (1.3). Men living in urban areas (1.8), in the South (1.6), in Ho Chi Minh City (2.4) and Hai Phong (1.8) reported a higher mean number of sexual partners than the other categories.

As presented above, higher risk sex is defined as having sex with a non-marital, non-cohabiting partner. This includes sex with prostitutes. Sex with prostitutes is particularly risky because prostitutes have many partners and are thus more likely to have sexually transmitted infections.

Of all the male respondents interviewed, 0.1 percent reported that they had sex with a prostitute in the 12 months preceding the survey (Table 9). This proportion hardly changes across any of the background characteristics, except that it is higher among the minority of never married men who report ever having had sex (1 percent).

**Table 9. Payment for sexual intercourse and condom use at last paid sexual intercourse**

Percentage of men age 15-49 reporting payment for sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, by background characteristics, Vietnam VPAIS 2005.

Background Characteristics	Percentage who paid for sexual intercourse in the past 12 months	Number of men
<b>Age</b>		
15-24	0.0	2,406
.. 15-19	0.0	1,472
.. 20-24	0.1	934
25-29	0.1	902
30-39	0.3	1,718
40-49	0.1	1,680
<b>Education</b>		
No education	0.0	234
Primary	0.0	1,215
Secondary	0.2	4,599
More than secondary	0.0	658
<b>Marital status</b>		
Never married	0.1	2,618
.. Ever had sex	1.1	204
.. Never had sex	na	2,414
Married/Living together	0.1	4,025
Divorced/Separated/Widowed	0.0	64
<b>Wealth index</b>		
Lowest	0.0	1,261
Second	0.1	1,275
Middle	0.2	1,384
Fourth	0.0	1,378
Highest	0.3	1,410
<b>Residence</b>		
Urban	0.2	1,378
Rural	0.1	5,329
<b>Region</b>		
North	0.1	2,455
Central	0.2	1,735
South	0.1	2,517
<b>Targeted provinces</b>		
Ha Noi	0.2	218
Ho Chi Minh City	0.0	427
Hai Phong	0.1	141
Quang Ninh	0.0	93
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>6,707</b>

### 3.6 Voluntary HIV Counseling and Testing

Knowledge of one's HIV status can empower individuals to take precautions to protect against either acquiring or transmitting the disease. Consequently, Vietnam has established a number of voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) sites across the country and encourages their use by the general population.

However, as a result of either lack of knowledge as to the importance of testing or for other reasons, most people in the country have not yet been tested. Only 5 percent of women and 6 percent of men reported to have ever undertaken an HIV test (Tables 10.1 and 10.2). Two percent of women and 3 percent of men were tested in the 12 months preceding the survey and said that they had received their results.

Table 10.1 Coverage of prior HIV testing (Women)

Percent distribution of respondents by whether tested for HIV and whether they received the results of the test, and the percentage of respondents who received their test results the last time they were tested for HIV in the past 12 months, according to background characteristics, Vietnam VPAIS 2005.

Background characteristics	Ever tested		Never tested/DK	Total	Percentage tested and received results in last 12 months	Number of women
	Received results	No results				
<b>Age</b>						
15-24	2.5	0.2	97.3	100.0	1.2	2,471
.. 15-19	0.8	0.0	99.1	100.0	0.6	1,359
.. 20-24	4.5	0.4	95.1	100.0	2.0	1,112
25-29	9.2	0.5	90.2	100.0	3.7	948
30-39	6.4	0.4	93.2	100.0	2.7	1,997
40-49	3.4	0.2	96.5	100.0	1.6	1,873
<b>Education</b>						
No education	0.6	0.0	99.4	100.0	0.0	407
Primary	1.8	0.1	98.1	100.0	0.7	1,574
Secondary	4.8	0.3	94.9	100.0	2.1	4,612
More than secondary	12.4	1.0	86.7	100.0	6.0	696
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	1.6	0.1	98.3	100.0	0.8	2,223
..Ever had sex	*	*	*	100.0	*	30
..Never had sex	1.5	0.1	98.5	100.0	0.8	2,193
Married/Living together	6.1	0.3	93.5	100.0	2.7	4,750
Divorced/Separated/ Widowed	3.8	0.3	95.9	100.0	0.9	316
<b>Wealth index</b>						
Lowest	1.2	0.4	98.4	100.0	0.8	1,306
Second	1.7	0.3	98.0	100.0	0.9	1,387
Middle	2.5	0.1	97.4	100.0	1.1	1,503
Fourth	6.0	0.2	93.8	100.0	2.4	1,507
Highest	10.8	0.5	88.7	100.0	4.6	1,587
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	9.8	0.6	89.6	100.0	4.5	1,575
Rural	3.2	0.2	96.6	100.0	1.4	5,714
<b>Region</b>						
North	5.8	0.5	93.7	100.0	2.5	2,802
Central	3.1	0.1	96.8	100.0	1.3	1,808
South	4.6	0.2	95.3	100.0	2.0	2,679
<b>Targeted provinces</b>						
Ha Noi	25.1	0.4	74.5	100.0	10.8	235
Ho Chi Minh City	13.5	0.2	86.4	100.0	6.8	484
Hai Phong	10.3	1.1	88.6	100.0	3.9	167
Quang Ninh	13.8	0.7	85.5	100.0	6.9	100
<b>Total</b>	4.7	0.3	95.0	100.0	2.1	7,289

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases.

**Table 10.2 Coverage of prior HIV testing (Men)**

Percent distribution of respondents by whether tested for HIV and whether they received the results of the test, and the percentage of respondents who received their test results the last time they were tested for HIV in the past 12 months, according to background characteristics, Vietnam VPAIS 2005.

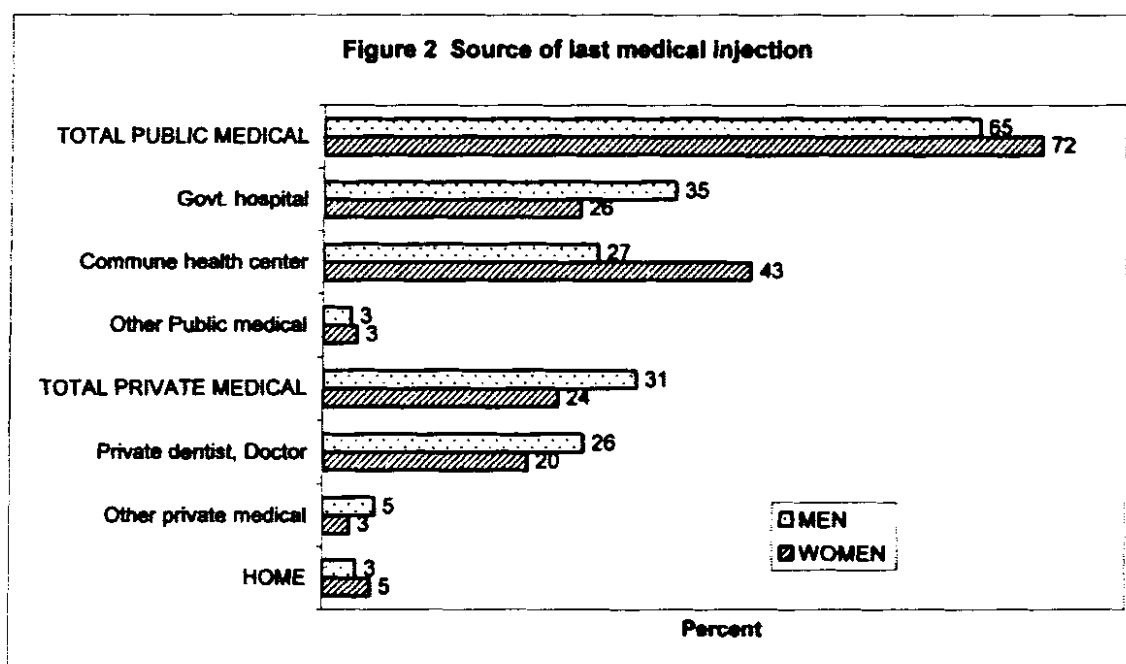
Background characteristics	Ever tested		Never tested/DK	Total	Percentage tested and received results in last 12 months	Number of men
	Received results	No results				
<b>Age</b>						
15-24	3.3	0.5	96.2	100.0	2.0	2,406
.. 15-19	1.6	0.2	98.2	100.0	1.3	1,472
.. 20-24	6.1	0.9	92.9	100.0	3.0	934
25-29	8.4	1.2	90.3	100.0	3.9	902
30-39	7.2	0.2	92.5	100.0	3.2	1,718
40-49	4.6	0.3	95.1	100.0	2.1	1,680
<b>Education</b>						
No education	0.3	0.0	99.7	100.0	0.3	234
Primary	2.0	0.0	98.0	100.0	0.4	1,215
Secondary	5.1	0.6	94.4	100.0	2.5	4,599
More than secondary	15.1	1.0	83.9	100.0	7.7	658
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	4.2	0.8	95.0	100.0	2.2	2,618
.. Ever had sex	16.5	3.6	79.9	100.0	10.3	204
.. Never had sex	3.1	0.6	96.3	100.0	1.6	2,414
Married/Living together	6.1	0.3	93.6	100.0	2.8	4,025
Divorced/Separated/ Widowed	5.9	0.0	94.1	100.0	2.6	64
<b>Wealth index</b>						
Lowest	1.4	0.2	98.5	100.0	0.6	1,261
Second	2.9	0.5	96.6	100.0	1.3	1,275
Middle	4.0	0.9	95.1	100.0	2.0	1,384
Fourth	6.1	0.2	93.8	100.0	2.4	1,378
Highest	11.7	0.6	87.6	100.0	6.2	1,410
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	9.6	0.7	89.8	100.0	4.5	1,378
Rural	4.3	0.4	95.3	100.0	2.1	5,329
<b>Region</b>						
North	8.7	0.7	90.6	100.0	4.2	2,455
Central	2.5	0.2	97.3	100.0	1.4	1,735
South	4.1	0.4	95.5	100.0	1.8	2,517
<b>Targeted provinces</b>						
Ha Noi	26.6	1.2	72.2	100.0	15.3	218
Ho Chi Minh City	10.0	0.3	89.7	100.0	5.1	427
Hai Phong	13.4	0.5	86.1	100.0	6.3	141
Quang Ninh	19.3	0.7	80.0	100.0	9.8	93
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>94.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>6,707</b>

Those in their 20s and 30s are more likely than others to have been tested. The proportion of women and men who have been tested increases with the wealth quintile and education. Six percent of women with higher education and 8 percent of men were tested and received their results in the 12 months preceding the survey. Women and men living in Ha Noi are more likely to have been recently tested (11 and 15 percent, respectively) than respondents living in other regions of Vietnam. Among women, those who are currently married are more likely to have been recently tested and received results than those never and formerly married (3 percent versus less than 1 percent). For men, the data reveal the opposite pattern, with never married men who ever had sex having a noticeably higher percentage of being tested and received results than currently or formerly married men (10 percent versus less than 3 percent).

### 3.7 Injections

Although the most common means of HIV transmission is through heterosexual contact, it is also useful to measure the prevalence of other potential means of transmission, such as the use of injections. As shown in Table 11, 26 percent of women and 19 percent of men reported that they had received an injection during the 12 months preceding the survey. The data show remarkably little variation in the use of injections by background characteristics either for women or for men. One exception is that there is a slight tendency for use of injections to be higher among women living in the South and among women and men living in Hai Phong (32 and 28 percent, respectively). Respondents living in Hai Phong reported an average number of medical injections per year about twice the national average (2.4 versus 1.6 for women and 3.0 versus 1.3 for men).

Seventy-two percent of women and 65 percent of men who received an injection in the last 12 months got the last injection in a public medical facility, at either a hospital or a health center (Figure 2). In addition, 24 percent of women and 31 percent of men got the last injection from a private provider, mainly a private doctor or dentist.



An important indicator related to the risks of HIV transmission for people getting injections is the extent to which syringes and needles are taken from sterile, unopened packages. While respondents may not be able to report on whether or not needles they were injected with were sterile, VPAIS respondents who received injections were asked if the health worker took the syringe and needle for the last injection from a newly opened package.

Ninety four percent of women and 97 percent of men reported that for their last injection, the syringe and needle were taken from a newly opened package and most of respondents who did not affirmatively answer this question did not know where the syringe and needle were taken from. The data show remarkably little variation in the use of "safe" injections (Table 11), and there is almost no variation according to the provider from which respondents got their injection (Figure 3).



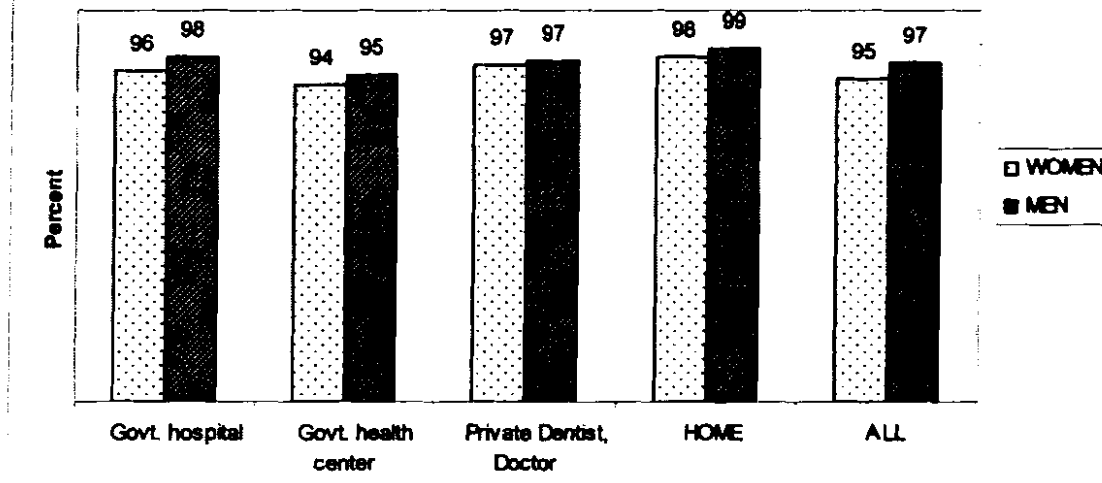
Table 11 Prevalence of injections

Percentage of women and men 15-49 who received at least one injection from a health worker in the last 12 months, the average number of medical injections per person and, among those who received an injection, the percentage whose health worker took the needle from a new unopened package, by background characteristics, Vietnam VPAIS 2005.

Background characteristics	Women					Men				
	Percentage who received a medical injection in the past 12 months	Average number of medical injections per year	Number of respondents	Last injection, syringe and needle taken from a new unopened package	Number of respondents who received a medical injection in the past 12 months	Percentage who received a medical injection in the past 12 months	Average number of medical injections per year	Number of respondents	Last injection, syringe and needle taken from a new unopened package	Number of respondents who received a medical injection in the past 12 months
<b>Age</b>										
15-24	24.2	1.0	2,471	94.6	597	15.5	0.7	2,406	96.0	372
.. 15-19	20.2	0.7	1,359	95.0	274	13.7	0.6	1,472	94.8	202
.. 20-24	29.0	1.3	1,112	94.2	323	18.2	0.9	934	97.5	170
25-29	31.0	1.4	948	96.7	294	19.5	1.2	902	98.1	176
30-39	26.5	1.8	1,997	93.7	528	20.3	1.4	1,718	98.0	349
40-49	23.4	2.2	1,873	94.4	439	20.5	2.0	1,680	95.8	344
<b>Education</b>										
No education	21.3	1.7	407	75.0	87	16.6	1.2	234	(86.6)	39
Primary	25.8	1.4	1,574	92.9	407	19.5	1.4	1,215	96.7	237
Secondary	25.7	1.6	4,612	96.3	1,187	18.1	1.2	4,599	96.9	832
More than secondary	25.5	1.5	696	96.6	177	20.4	1.3	658	99.6	135
<b>Wealth index</b>										
Lowest	25.7	1.6	1,306	84.6	336	17.0	1.0	1,261	92.4	214
Second	26.6	1.4	1,387	96.3	369	20.0	1.5	1,275	97.0	255
Middle	26.6	1.9	1,503	97.4	400	17.1	1.2	1,384	98.3	237
Fourth	24.9	1.5	1,507	97.6	375	19.1	1.1	1,378	97.9	263
Highest	23.8	1.4	1,587	96.0	378	19.3	1.5	1,410	97.6	273
<b>Residence</b>										
Urban	22.5	1.2	1,575	97.4	354	17.9	1.3	1,378	97.5	246
Rural	26.3	1.7	5,714	93.9	1,504	18.7	1.3	5,329	96.6	996
<b>Region</b>										
North	24.2	1.8	2,802	95.8	679	16.1	1.5	2,455	97.9	394
Central	24.1	1.4	1,808	90.8	436	16.4	1.1	1,735	92.5	285
South	27.7	1.4	2,679	95.7	742	22.3	1.2	2,517	98.2	562
<b>Targeted provinces</b>										
Ha Noi	22.0	1.3	235	93.7	52	13.1	0.9	218	97.5	29
Ho Chi Minh City	21.9	0.8	484	96.1	106	18.1	0.6	427	98.1	77
Hai Phong	31.7	2.4	167	97.6	53	28.3	3.0	141	97.8	40
Quang Ninh	22.6	1.3	100	100.0	23	13.9	1.4	93	100.0	13
<b>Total</b>	25.5	1.6	7,289	94.6	1,858	18.5	1.3	6,707	96.8	1,242

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

**Figure 3 Percentage of men and women whose last injection was given with a syringe and needle taken from a new unopened package**



### 3.8 Youth and HIV/AIDS

Knowledge of the means of transmission of HIV is crucial in enabling young people to protect themselves. The data in Table 12 show the level of comprehensive knowledge among young people, namely, the proportion who, in response to a prompted question, agree that people can reduce their chances of getting the AIDS virus by having sex with only one uninfected, faithful partner and by using condoms; who know that a healthy-looking person can have the AIDS virus; and who know that HIV cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites or by sharing food with a person who has AIDS.

It is encouraging that 42 percent of young women and 50 percent of young men know all of these facts about HIV/AIDS. Comprehensive knowledge is higher among urban youths than rural youths. Knowledge also increases with increasing education and increasing wealth status. Young women and men who have ever been married are less likely to have comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS than never married youths.

Condom use among young people plays an important role in the prevention of transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, as well as unwanted pregnancies. Knowledge of a place to get condoms is a necessary precursor to use of condoms. Over half of young women and men (56 and 57 percent, respectively) know a place where a person can get condoms (Table 12). As might be expected, knowledge of a source for condoms is considerably higher among women and men aged 20-24 than among those aged 15-19. Knowledge of a source for condoms among young urban women and men is higher than among young rural women and men in Vietnam.

Knowledge of a source of condoms increases with increasing educational level for both women and men. For young women, knowledge of a source for condoms increases from 16 percent for those with no education to 85 percent for those with at least some secondary education. A similar pattern exists for knowledge of condom sources by wealth quintile, with youths from the lowest quintile being the least likely to know of a place to get condoms.

Table 12. Comprehensive knowledge about AIDS and knowledge of a source of condom

Percentage of young women and young men age 15-24 with comprehensive knowledge about AIDS and percentage with knowledge of a source of condoms, by background characteristics, Vietnam VPAIS 2005.

Background characteristics	Women			Men		
	Percentage with comprehensive knowledge of AIDS	Know a source for condom	Number of respondents	Percentage with comprehensive knowledge of AIDS	Know a source for condom	Number of respondents
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	42.0	45.4	1,359	48.1	48.4	1,472
..15-17	42.8	39.5	874	46.2	42.4	1,047
..18-19	40.7	56.0	485	53.0	63.2	426
20-24	42.5	68.0	1,112	53.6	71.5	934
..20-22	42.8	66.6	660	52.1	70.3	556
..23-24	42.2	70.2	452	55.9	73.2	377
<b>Education</b>						
No education	3.6	15.7	81	(1.5 )	(28.4 )	43
Primary	17.3	43.6	386	19.0	44.1	329
Secondary	44.4	55.6	1,735	53.5	57.3	1,815
More than secondary	75.5	84.7	270	80.4	83.7	219
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	45.9	49.6	1,851	51.9	56.1	2,164
..Ever had sex	*	*	4	56.4	97.9	82
..Never had sex	46.0	49.5	1,847	51.7	54.5	2,082
Ever married	31.3	73.6	620	35.4	68.6	242
<b>Wealth index</b>						
Lowest	24.1	39.3	454	29.5	41.2	469
Second	34.3	50.2	469	43.9	54.9	475
Middle	43.9	58.2	559	55.3	56.6	520
Fourth	50.9	61.3	493	59.6	64.6	466
Highest	56.1	67.0	495	62.3	69.4	476
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	51.9	63.5	531	62.8	66.1	459
Rural	39.6	53.4	1,940	47.3	55.3	1,947
<b>Region</b>						
North	51.0	58.8	936	51.6	52.0	874
Central	36.8	59.5	626	53.1	49.3	634
South	37.0	49.6	908	47.0	68.3	898
<b>Targeted provinces</b>						
Ha Noi	70.2	74.6	77	73.2	67.2	76
Ho Chi Minh City	38.5	58.1	169	50.7	73.2	152
Hai Phong	45.7	49.8	58	61.3	50.8	50
Quang Ninh	64.8	57.5	31	65.8	50.9	29
<b>Total 15-24</b>	<b>42.3</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>2,471</b>	<b>50.3</b>	<b>57.4</b>	<b>2,406</b>

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases.

The 2005 VPAIS gathered information on the timing of the first sexual intercourse for both men and women. The percentage of young women and men who had sexual intercourse before reaching age 15 and age 18 is given in Table 13. Because some of those who are age 15-24 are under age 18 and may still initiate sex before reaching age 18, the proportions who had sex before age 18 can only be shown for those age 18-24.

Less than 1 percent of women and men age 15-24 said that they had sex before they were 15. Ten percent of women and 3 percent of men who are age 18-24 reported having had sex before reaching age 18.

The data show remarkably little variation in the percentage of women and men who had sex before they were 15. However, young women and men who are never married are less likely to initiate sexual activity by age 15 or 18 than those who are ever married.

Among women, there is a strong relationship between level of education and age at first sex. Young women aged 18-24 with no education are far more likely to have had sex before age 18 (30 percent) than young women with at least secondary education (less than 7 percent). In terms of wealth, the survey results show that young women and men aged 18-24 who are in poorer households are more likely than those who are in wealthier households to have had sex by age 18.

**Table 13 Age at first sex among young women and men**

Percentage of young women and men age 15-24 who have had sex before exact age 15 and 18, by background characteristics, Vietnam VPAIS 2005.

Background characteristics	Women				Men			
	Percent who had sex before exact age 15	Number of respondents 15-24	Percent who had sex before exact age 18	Number of respondents 18-24	Percent who had sex before exact age 15	Number of respondents 15-24	Percent who had sex before exact age 18	Number of respondents 18-24
<b>Age</b>								
15-19	0.5	1,359	NA	NA	0.3	1,472	NA	NA
..15-17	0.2	874	NA	NA	0.4	1,047	NA	NA
..18-19	0.9	485	8.2	485	0.2	426	3.2	426
20-24	0.5	1,112	10.5	1,112	0.3	934	3.3	934
..20-22	0.7	660	10.0	660	0.2	556	3.0	556
..23-24	0.2	452	11.2	452	0.4	377	3.7	377
<b>Education</b>								
No education	0.3	81	30.1	58	(0.0)	43	*	23
Primary	1.8	386	25.7	293	0.7	329	8.5	233
Secondary	0.2	1,735	6.5	982	0.3	1,815	2.4	889
More than secondary	0.0	270	0.0	265	0.0	219	0.9	215
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	0.0	1,851	0.0	988	0.1	2,164	0.6	1,127
Ever married	1.8	620	25.7	609	2.4	242	15.9	232
<b>Wealth index</b>								
Lowest	1.7	454	23.8	305	1.1	469	9.3	274
Second	0.3	469	12.6	291	0.0	475	1.5	258
Middle	0.1	559	6.1	349	0.0	520	2.4	264
Fourth	0.1	493	4.8	327	0.3	466	2.6	269
Highest	0.2	495	3.1	325	0.2	476	0.5	293
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	0.4	531	3.7	368	0.2	459	1.0	288
Rural	0.5	1,940	11.6	1,230	0.3	1,947	3.8	1,071
<b>Region</b>								
North	0.7	936	11.1	576	0.5	874	4.9	492
Central	0.5	626	9.6	416	0.0	634	1.0	323
South	0.2	908	8.7	606	0.2	898	3.0	544
<b>Targeted provinces</b>								
Ha Noi	0.0	77	1.7	55	0.0	76	0.0	56
Ho Chi Minh City	0.9	169	6.5	121	0.5	152	1.3	111
Hai Phong	0.3	58	5.9	35	0.0	50	1.0	32
Quang Ninh	0.0	31	6.1	20	0.0	29	2.0	17
<b>Total 15-24</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>2,471</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>1,597</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>2,406</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>1,359</b>

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases.

Table 14 shows the percentage of never-married young women and men aged 15-24 years who have not yet engaged in sex, as well as the percentage who had sex in the 12 months preceding the survey. More than 99 percent of never-married young women reported that they had never had sex, compared with 96 percent of never-married men aged 15-24. While the data show almost no variation in the percentage of young women who never had sex, the proportion of unmarried young men who have never had sex drops between age groups 15-17 and 23-24 from 99 percent to 87 percent.

Only a small minority of never married youth have reported ever having had sexual intercourse. Four percent of urban young men report having had premarital sex and two percent of rural men report having had premarital sex. Five percent of never married youth in the South report having had premarital sex, while only 2 and one percent of men in the North and Central regions report ever having had sexual intercourse. The percentage of young men who have engaged in premarital sex shows some tendency to increase with increasing education and increasing wealth, although those who report having engaged in premarital sex is a small minority of youth.

**Table 14 Premarital sex**

Among never married women and men age 15-24, percentage who never had sex and percentage who have had sex in the past 12 months, by background characteristics, Vietnam VPAIS 2005.

Background characteristics	Women			Men		
	Percentage who never had sex	Percentage who had sex in the past 12 months	Number of never married women 15-24	Percentage who never had sex	Percentage who had sex in the past 12 months	Number of never married men 15-24
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	99.7	0.3	1,274	98.2	1.6	1,450
..15-17	100.0	0.0	863	99.4	0.4	1,037
..18-19	99.2	0.8	411	95.4	4.4	413
20-24	99.9	0.0	577	92.0	5.2	713
..20-22	100.0	0.0	401	94.5	3.5	470
..23-24	99.8	0.0	176	87.2	8.4	243
<b>Education</b>						
No education	(100.0)	(0.0)	31	(96.6)	(3.4)	30
Primary	99.7	0.3	217	94.4	3.9	247
Secondary	99.8	0.2	1,369	96.9	2.0	1,674
More than secondary	100.0	0.0	234	92.4	6.9	213
<b>Wealth index</b>						
Lowest	100.0	0.0	276	96.9	1.7	375
Second	100.0	0.0	335	96.9	2.7	419
Middle	100.0	0.0	426	97.0	2.1	478
Fourth	99.8	0.2	391	96.5	2.1	437
Highest	99.3	0.6	423	93.8	4.9	456
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	99.8	0.2	458	94.1	4.4	438
Rural	99.8	0.2	1,393	96.7	2.3	1,726
<b>Region</b>						
North	99.9	0.0	671	97.1	2.3	745
Central	100.0	0.0	475	99.1	0.7	588
South	99.5	0.5	705	93.3	4.6	830
<b>Targeted provinces</b>						
Ha Noi	99.4	0.0	64	91.6	6.5	72
Ho Chi Minh City	99.5	0.5	138	92.8	4.9	142
Hai Phong	100.0	0.0	44	94.5	4.8	44
Quang Ninh	100.0	0.0	23	98.8	1.2	26
<b>Total 15-24</b>	<b>99.8</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>1,851</b>	<b>96.2</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2,164</b>

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

Table 15 shows the proportion of young people who engage in higher risk sex. In this context, higher risk sex refers to sex with non-marital, non-cohabiting partners.

Among sexually active youths aged 15-24 years, less than 1 percent of women and 21 percent of men engaged in higher risk sexual activity in the 12 months preceding the survey. The table reveals almost no variation in the percentage of women engaged in higher risk sexual activity. By definition, all sexually active women and men who are not married engage in higher risk sex. Thus, a higher proportion of men

aged 15-19 engage in higher risk sex than the proportion of those age 20-24 (52 versus 16 percent), simply because a larger proportion of men in their early 20s are married.

As for premarital sex, higher risk sexual intercourse is higher among urban men than rural men (53 percent versus 17 percent) and among those living in the South (38 percent) than in the North (13 percent) and the Central region (12 percent). Higher risk sex among young men also increases with increasing education and increasing wealth status. By education, the percentage of young men engaged in higher risk sex increases from 7 percent among those with no education to 80 percent among those with more than secondary education.

Table 15 Higher-risk sexual intercourse among youth in the past 12 months				
Among young respondents age 15-24 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, percentage who had higher-risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, by background characteristics, Vietnam VPAIS 2005.				
Background characteristics	Women		Men	
	Percentage who had higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months	Number of women who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months	Percentage who had higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months	Number of men who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months
<b>Age</b>				
15-19	3.9	85	(51.7)	44
..15-17	*	10	*	13
..18-19	4.5	75	(59.4)	31
20-24	0.1	524	16.1	253
..20-22	0.0	255	17.7	101
..23-24	0.3	269	15.0	152
<b>Education</b>				
No education	0.0	49	*	14
Primary	0.4	164	10.9	88
Secondary	0.9	361	21.0	174
More than secondary	(0.0)	36	(80.4)	20
<b>Wealth index</b>				
Lowest	0.4	176	6.6	98
Second	0.0	132	16.7	68
Middle	0.0	131	19.5	51
Fourth	0.7	99	(30.7)	38
Highest	3.7	71	56.9	42
<b>Residence</b>				
Urban	1.1	69	52.6	40
Rural	0.6	541	16.5	257
<b>Region</b>				
North	0.3	261	13.4	145
Central	0.0	148	(11.5)	50
South	1.7	200	37.5	102
<b>Targeted provinces</b>				
Ha Noi	(0.0)	13	*	9
Ho Chi Minh City	(2.4)	30	*	16
Hai Phong	0.0	14	(28.1)	8
Quang Ninh	(0.0)	7	*	3
<b>Total 15-24</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>297</b>

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases.

## MEASURE DHS Preliminary Reports

Turkey	December	1998	English
Ghana	May	1999	English
Guatemala	June	1999	Spanish
Guinea	October	1999	French
Kazakhstan	December	1999	English/Russian
Tanzania	February	2000	English
Zimbabwe	March	2000	English
Bangladesh	June	2000	English
Egypt	June	2000	English
Ethiopia	July	2000	English
Haiti	September	2000	French
Cambodia	November	2000	English
Turkmenistan	January	2001	English
Malawi	February	2001	English
Rwanda	February	2001	French
Armenia	March	2001	English
Gabon	March	2001	French
Uganda	May	2001	English
Mauritania	July	2001	French
Nepal	August	2001	English
Mali	December	2001	French
Benin	February	2002	French
Eritrea	September	2002	English
Zambia	October	2002	English
Jordan	November	2002	English
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Uzbekistan	May	2003	English
Indonesia	August	2003	English
Nigeria	October	2003	English
Kenya	December	2003	English
Indonesia (young adult)	December	2003	English
Jayapura City, Indonesia (young adult)	December	2003	English
Philippines	January	2004	English
Burkina Faso	May	2004	French
Ghana	June	2004	English
Morocco	June	2004	French
Bangladesh	September	2004	English
Cameroon	October	2004	French
Madagascar	October	2004	French
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Kenya (SPA)	March	2005	English
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Malawi	August	2005	English
Senegal	August	2005	French
Guinea	August	2005	French
Lesotho	September	2005	English
Egypt	September	2005	English
Rwanda	November	2005	French
Ethiopia	November	2005	English
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